(v) Banks have been advised to conduct joint recover drives with concerned Government departments *viz.* DIC.

Withdrawal of bonus payable on post office term deposits

4033. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that bonus payable on post office term deposits has been withdrawn with effect from 13th February, 2006;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor; and

(c) steps taken to encourage small savings and make it more attractive for its significant contribution towards economic growth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. No bonus shall be paid on the deposits made in the accounts opened on or after 13.2.2006 under the Post Office Monthly Income Account (POMIA) Scheme. However, deposits in Monthly Income Accounts opened before 13.2.2006 shall continue to be eligible for bonus as hithertofore. The amendment has been made to align the effective yield on deposits under this scheme with other comparable savings instruments.

(c) The small savings schemes, carrying different tenor and rates of interest administered by the Government of India, are designed to provide safe and attractive investment options to different sections of small savers. Central and State Governments are taking various measures to promote these schemes through print and electronic media, arranging seminars and meetings, providing training to the various agencies involved in small savings collections, etc.

Reduction in funds for revival of sick PSUs

4034. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government's concern for revival of sick PSUs has grown lukewarm with heavy reduction in plan allocation for 2006-07;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefore; and